

(c) The major countries which have reduced import of silk goods from India are USA, Germany, U.K., France, Netherlands, UAE, Canada, Singapore, Australia.

(d) In order to increase the exports of silk products, the Government is providing assistance to the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council for undertaking various export promotion activities such as participation in international fairs, organising generic promotion stalls in domestic fairs like Tex Styles India, publicity in foreign trade magazines, sponsoring of sales-cum-study tours and buyer-seller meets, dissemination of overseas trade information among exporters, etc. Besides, the Government has taken several measures to boost silk exports such as the facility of duty free import of raw material under the Advance Licensing Scheme, import of capital goods at concessional rate of duty for export production, etc.

#### **IDBI Loan to U.P. and Gujarat**

5750. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications received by Industrial Development Bank of India particularly from the entrepreneur of Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat during each of the last three years and the number of applications approved and rejected out of them separately, State-wise; and

(b) the details of the financial assistance provided to industries by the IDBI to each of the above States during the said period, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The numbers of applications received, sanctioned and rejected under direct finance schemes of the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) in the States of Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat during the last three years is given below :

Year	Uttar Pradesh			Gujarat		
	Applications			Applications		
	Received	Sanctioned	Rejected	Received	Sanctioned	Rejected
1993-94	100	93	1	197	255	7
1994-95	154	120	2	261	211	3
1995-96	135	97	1	163	138	3

(b) Details of financial assistance disbursed to the industries by IDBI under direct finance schemes in the States of Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 are as under :

(Rs crore)		
Year	Uttar Pradesh	Gujarat
1993-94	395.7	737.7
1994-95	646.7	1575.3
1995-96	742.2	1634.9

#### **Export to Latin American Countries**

5751. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to give double weightage to exports made to the thrust market of Latin American countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Vide Public Notice No. 363 (PN)/92-97 dated 1.8.96, the benefit of double weightage on NFE or FOB basis earned by exports made on or after 1st April, 1996 to 43 countries including all Latin American countries has been made available for the purpose of claiming eligibility for recognition as Export House, Trading House, Star Trading House and Super Star Trading House. A copy of the said Public Notice is available in the Parliament Library.

#### **Financial Assistance to Tamil Nadu by NABARD**

5752. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of financial assistance provided by NABARD to Tamil Nadu during each of the last three years and in 1996 so far, Scheme-wise;

(b) the number of farmers benefited therefrom during this period particularly in the backward areas of the State;

(c) the amount of loans recovered therefrom so far; and

(d) the criteria for sanctioning financial assistance by NABARD ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is primarily an apex refinancing institution which provides refinance assistance to banks. The details of the amount of refinance provided by NABARD to institutions in Tamil Nadu during the years 1993-94, 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 (upto 31-8-1996), scheme-wise, is given the Statement attached.

(b) NABARD does not provide loans to farmers directly. However, the refinance provided by NABARD augments the resources available with banks for providing loan assistance to farmers.

(c) The data reporting system does not generate the information in the manner asked for. However, the overall percentage of recovery to demand of various institutions in Tamil Nadu is as under :

Year ending	District Central Cooperative Banks	Primary Land Development Banks	Regional Rural Banks
June, 1993	76	60	73
June, 1994	78	71*	62
June, 1995	85	82*	68

\*Provisional.

(d) The criteria prescribed by NABARD for sanction of financial assistance *inter-alia* includes :

- (i) Schemes which are found technically feasible, economically viable and bankable are eligible for NABARD refinance assistance;
- (ii) The quantum of refinance depends on the purpose and the agency;
- (iii) The eligibility of banks to draw refinance from NABARD under schematic lending is linked to their recovery performance also; and
- (iv) NABARD may consider providing special exemption from/relaxation in the eligibility criteria for extending refinance to banks for thrust areas such as watershed development projects, 100% export oriented schemes, wastelands' development projects on merits of the case and on the basis of specific requests from the banks.

#### STATEMENT

Purpose	(Rs. in lakhs)			
	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
			(upto 31.8.96)	
Minor Irrigation	729.8	536.5	455.8	153.1
Rural Electrification Corpn.	1340.3	2199.8	1275.5	—
Land Development	55.2	32.7	106.4	1.4
Farm Mechanisation	4112.3	4585.5	4654.8	2312.5
Plantation & Horticulture	754.8	1368.9	553.2	215.1
Dairy Development	2870.0	3183.0	3662.8	1143.8
Poultry	650.7	1006.3	1624.4	148.5
Sheep/Goat/Piggery	2818.4	3365.9	3470.6	1343.1
Fishery	693.1	689.8	674.0	10.2
Sericulture	151.1	95.5	136.1	79.4
Storage/Market Yard	2.8	10.4	37.7	—
Forestry	151.0	145.2	88.9	27.7
Seed	—	93.1	36.7	0.2
Agro-Industries	168.1	71.3	547.4	0.5
Biogas	233.0	163.1	117.7	31.9
IRDP	—	1531.3	1160.2	514.1
Non-Farm Sector	6676.0	3401.8	4394.4	3369.1
Others	—	3338.9	3610.7	64.0
Total	21406.6	25819.0	26607.3	9414.6

[Translation]

#### Obara Carpet Industry

5753. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Obara Carpet Industry of Bihar which had received President's award is lying closed from quite some time; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide assistance for the revival of this industry ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) Government is not aware of the fact that the Obara Carpet Industry of Bihar is lying closed from quite some time. It is estimated that there are nearly 275 looms operating in and around obra.

(b) For development of Obara carpets in the State of Bihar, the Government of India has set up a Carpet Weaving Training Centre at Kharanti, P.O. Obara which endeavours to upgrade the skills of carpet weavers in the region. Since its inception in 1987, 165 trainees have been trained so far and they are gainfully employed in the same trade. The exporters participate in various international trade fairs through the Carpet Export Promotion Council for boosting exports of Obara carpets among others.

[English]

#### Merger of Nationalised Banks

5754. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering any proposal for merger of nationalised banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for such proposals and objective of such merger ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

#### Production and Export of Mica and Mica Paper

5755. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total production of Mica and Mica Paper in the country and the total quantity exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years;

(b) whether any export of the above items declined during the Eighth Plan in comparison to Sixth and Seventh Plan;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of those items ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) The details of total production of mica and Mica paper, total quantity exported and foreign exchange earned during the last three years are given in the Statement attached.